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esis, moreover, explains the appearance of included endodermis and phloem in young individuals of various examples of vascular plants, a condition which finds no elucidation whatever in connection with the views adopted almost universally by English anatomists.—E. C. JEFFREY.

Jurassic woods.—GOTHAN[7] describes a number of fossil woods from the Jurassic of King Karl's Land, none of which he refers to the Araucarineae. Two species, *Phyllocladoxylon* sp. and *Xenoxylon phyllocladoides*, are considered to belong in the region of the Podocarpineae. One *Cupressinoxylon* is also figured, which is compared with the *C. McGeei* of KNOWLTON. Next are two Cedroxyla, *C. cedroides* and *C. transiens*. To the latter of these he attaches much importance because of the presence of araucarian pitting together with the ray structure of the Abietineae. The author assumes that he has to do in this instance with an abietineous wood, in which certain araucarineous characters indicate the derivation of the Abietineae from an araucarian stock, in accordance with the conventional and generally received views. It does not seem to have occurred to the author that he may have an araucarian conifer with indications of transition toward the Abietineae. The genus *Araucariopitys*, recently described by the reviewer, has the same ligneous characters as GOTHAN'S *Cedroxylon transiens*, only with a more pronounced resemblance to the Abietineae. It is nevertheless unquestionably an araucarian conifer. One abietineous wood is described, namely *Protopiceoxylon extinctum*. The wood in question has normally only horizontal resin canals, but vertical ones may occur as the result of injury. The author regards his wood as evidence that the vertical type of resin canal is older than the horizontal, forgetful that GOEPPERT and PENHALLOW have described much older Pityoxyla from the Carboniferous and Permian respectively, which show only horizontal canals. It seems, accordingly, that "*Protopiceoxylon*," with a much greater degree of probability, represents a stage in degeneracy toward the *Cedroxylon* type, rather than a primitive abietineous type antedating *Pityoxylon*. The author lightly sets aside the evidence adduced on comparative anatomical and experimental grounds by the reviewer for the great age of the pinelike Abietineae. With admirable Teutonic frankness, he characterizes the reduction hypothesis of the phylogeny of the Coniferales as one to which, "wohl niemand beipflichten kann." He apparently loses sight of the fact that the reduction hypothesis is now quite generally adopted by competent morphologists for such degenerate groups as the Equisetales, Lycopodiales, etc. Had the literature on the fossil conifers, which has recently been published by American paleobotanical writers, been available, in all probability GOTHAN'S opinion in regard to the fallacy of the reduction hypothesis in connection with the phylogenetic development of the conifers would have been expressed with considerably more reserve.—E. C. JEFFREY.

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[7] GOTHAN, W., Die Fossilen Hoelzer Koenig Karls Land. Handl. Kgl. Svensk. Vetensk.-Akad. **42**: no. 10.